**Adelie Penguins**

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* **- Adelies are the smallest and most widely spread penguins in the entire Antarctic region.**
* **- They are named after the wife of the French explorer Admiral Durmont d' Urville.**
* **- At the wintertime, Adelie penguins stay at sea, resting on pack ice and icebergs in groups.**
* **- Adelie penguins can dive up to 500 feet to hunt for prey, but usually they dive much shallower.**
* **- The Adelies are always squabbling over nesting sites, especially over the higher, well-drained areas. They also steal rocks from other penguin’s nests.**
* **- The Adelies main oceanic predators are leopard seals which often lie in wait beneath the ledges to snare the first penguin into the water.**
* **Elephant Seal**



* **- They are named because of the trunk-like nose of the males.**
* **- They are the biggest of the Antarctic population.**
* **- Sealers in the 19th and early 20th century called them sea elephants.**
* **- In the Summer, you can spot ‘beach parties’ of HUNDREDS of elephant seals ‘sunbathing’ in muddy wallows in the rocky part of Antarctica.**
* **- Southern Elephant seals have silvery-brownish skin with large square-shaped heads, strong front flippers, and flipper tails.**
* **- Male Elephant seals are much larger than the females.**
* **- Although they are swift and powerful swimmers, Southern Elephant seals are slow on land, since it is very difficult lifting their huge bodies off the ground as they haul themselves on and off the beach.**
* **- Elephant seals prey on large fish, squid and an occasional penguin.**

**Orcas (Killer Whales)**



**- Like other toothed whales, Orcas communicate by emitting high-pitched clicks and sense them as they bounce back off objects.**

**- The largest population of Orca whales seems to be in Antarctica where it is estimated the population is around 160,000**

**- Orcas don't make long migrations, although they may move hundreds of miles in order to find seasonal prey.**

**- Orcas can swim up to 30 miles per hour in short bursts.**

**- Female Orcas have a sickle-shaped dorsal fin, but in the male it is triangular and reaches almost six feet in height.**

**- Typical of most whales, Orca calves are born tail first.**

* **- Orcas have a lifespan in excess of 50 years.**
* **- Orcas are actually dolphins!**